THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, January 12, 1807.

HISTORY *of* KENILWORTH CASTLE.

AMONG the ruined structures which form a valuable comment, not only on the disposition, but the history of our ancient fortresses, is the castle of Kenilworth, near Warwick; famed in the middle centuries for its strength; and at a later period, as the last scene of that heroic gallantry so conspicuous in the annals of Elizabeth.

Sir William Dugdale says, that Kenilworth had a castle previous to the conquest. But it appears to have stood in a different situation from the present, and to have been demolished in the wars between Edmund and Canute. We have no notice of such a structure in the Domesday Survey.

The new building was erected soon after 1100, by Geffrey de Clinton, treasurer and chamberlain to Henry I. who also founded the priory; but it was of such uncommon strength and extent that it did not long continue with his family. According to the pipe-rolls, so early as 1165, the sheriff accounted to the crown for the profit of the park; and eight years after, in the 19th of Henry II. we find it possessed and garrisoned by the king, during the unnatural rebellion of his sons. The following were the stores laid in:

100	Quarters of bread corn -	8	8	2
20	Quarters of barley - -	1	13	4
100	Hogs - - - -	1	10	0
40	Cows salted - - -	4	0	0
120	Cheeses - - -	2	5	0
25	Quarters of salt - -	1	10	0

Geffrey de Clinton, the son, from a deed in one of the priory registers, seems afterward to have recovered the possession

of it; though he did not hold it seven years: for in the 27th of Henry II. 1181, we find the sheriff again accounting to the king for the ward of it. Rent also was paid by divers persons who lived within it, as Sir William Dugdale supposes, for the safety both of themselves and of their goods in those turbulent and licentious times. Still, however, the possession of it does not seem to have been entirely vested in the crown, as in the beginning of John's reign, Henry de Clinton, the grandson of the founder, released to the king all his right in it, as well as in the woods and pools about it. After this time we find considerable sums laid out in repairing, extending, and improving the fortifications; and the alterations which were made in the 26th of Henry III. 1242, are expressly enumerated. The chapel was ceiled, wainscotted, and adorned with painting; handsome seats made for the king and queen; the bell-tower repaired; the queen's chamber enlarged and painted; and the walls on the south side, next the pool, entirely re-built. The same year, Gilbert de Segrave was made governor during the royal pleasure; but under terms which implied some fear of foreign enemies. Soon after this, however, the king bestowed it upon Simon de Montefort, earl of Leicester, and Eleanor his wife, during their lives. This earl, taking part with the rebellious barons, was slain, with his eldest son, at the battle of Evesham, August 4, 1265; but his castle of Kenilworth held out against the royal forces for six months. The works were defended with considerable resolution, and the besiegers assailed with stones of great weight from military engines, which, added to frequent sallies, occasioned Henry to change the siege into a blockade; 'till, tired of wasting time before it, he resolved to take it by storm. But, in the meanwhile, famine and disease determined Henry de Hastings, who commanded it, to surrender on conditions. It was during the blockade that the king, having assembled a parliament, made the Dictum de Kenilworth, found among our old statutes. After the siege, the king bestowed the castle on his son Edmund, granting him free chase and warren in all his demesne lands and woods belonging to it; with a weekly market and an annual fair.

In the reign of Edward I. we find Kenilworth remarkable for different scenes. Roger Mortimer, earl of March, with a gallant assembly of an hundred knights, and as many ladies, held a round table here, diverting themselves with tournaments and other feats of chivalry. In the 15th of Edward II. by the attainder of Thomas earl of Lancaster, the castle again escheated to the crown; and soon after became the prison of the king. Edward, having been deposed by his queen, and taken prisoner in Wales, was brought hither, where he made the resignation of his crown; whence being removed in the night by his keepers,

keepers, Sir John Maltravers and Sir Thomas Berkeley, to Berkeley-castle, he was murdered.

In the 13th of Edward III.'s reign, Henry, the brother of the earl of Lancaster, had his estates, and among them this castle, restored. On a partition, it afterwards fell to Blanch, his grand-daughter, who married John of Gaunt; who in the 15th year of Richard II. on his return from Spain, made considerable additions to the works. In the possession of his son, it once more reverted to the crown; and remained a royal palace 'till 1562. Henry V. and Henry VIII. appear to have made some few additions, the greater part of which may be easily distinguished at the present hour.

In 1563, Elizabeth granted it, with all its royalties, to Robert Dudley, third son to the duke of Northumberland, whom she afterwards created earl of Leicester.

By him no money was spared in making alterations, additions, and improvements in the castle. The chace became extended, and even the back part of the castle was made the front, with a handsome gatehouse at the entrance.

In 1570, we are told by Strype, as well as in some of the court-letters of the day, that plots and disturbances had so awakened the earl of Leicester, that, whether it were for his own safe recess, or the queen's, or for the bringing of the queen of Scots thither, he had now many workmen at his seat at Kenilworth to make it strong, and had furnished it with armour, ammunition, and all necessaries for defence. (See Strype's Annals, vol. i. p. 579; and Lodge's Illustrations of British History, vol. ii. p. 49.)

In 1572, in her progress to Warwick, we find Elizabeth paying a short visit here to her favourite; but her capital visit was in 1575, on which Leicester exerted his whole magnificence, in a manner so splendid, says Bishop Hurd (Dialogues Moral and Political, p. 125), as to claim a remembrance even in the annals of our country. Accounts of it were given at the time in two very scarce and curious tracts, which have been re-printed in "Queen Elizabeth's Progresses;" one by Laneham, and the other by George Gascoigne: the latter entitled "The Princely Pleasures of Kenilworth Castle."

At the queen's first entrance, which appears to have been by what is called the gallery tower, a floating island was discerned upon the pool, glittering with torches, on which sat the lady of the lake, attended by two nymphs, who addressed her majesty in verse with an historical account of the antiquity and owners of the castle; and the speech was closed with the sound of cornets, and other instruments of loud music. Within the base-court was erected a stately bridge, 20 feet wide, and 70 long, over which the queen was to pass; and on each side stood columns, with presents upon them to her majesty from

the gods. Silvanus offered a cage of wild-fowl, and Pomona divers sorts of fruits; Ceres gave corn, and Bacchus wine; Neptune presented sea-fish; Mars the habiliments of war; and Phœbus all kinds of musical instruments. During the rest of her stay, a variety of sports and shews were daily exhibited. In the chace was a savage man with satyrs; there were bear-baitings and fire-works, Italian tumblers, and a country brideale, running at the quintin, and morrice-dancing. And, that no sort of diversion might be omitted, hither came the Coventry men, and acted the ancient play, so long since used in their city, called Hocks-Tuesday, representing the destruction of the Danes in the reign of King Ethelred; which proved so agreeable to her majesty, that she ordered them a brace of bucks, and five marks in money to defray the charges of the feast. There were besides, on the pool, a Triton on a mermaid 18 feet long, and Arion upon a dolphin. To grace the entertainment, the queen here knighted Sir Thomas Cecil, eldest son to the lord treasurer; Sir Henry Cobham, brother to the Lord Cobham; Sir Francis Stanhope, and Sir Thomas Tresham. An estimate may be formed of the expence from the quantity of ordinary beer that was drank on the occasion, amounting to 320 hogsheads. (See the Life of Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester, 1727, p. 92, Dugd. Warw. &c.) The queen staid here nineteen days; during which time, besides the expence of the recreations, the castle appears to have been still farther furnished with artillery and ammunition from some of the royal arsenals. The former, it is particularly said by Strype, were never carried back. Here also Elizabeth touched nine persons for the evil. The verses, plays, and pageants, were devised by the most ingenious writers of the time.

(To be concluded in our next.)

NEW YEAR's DAY *in* SICILY.

THE commencement of a year causes a great holiday amongst the Sicilians: in the churches were displayed a great variety of decorations; these, however, were rather gaudy than costly, much more glaring than beautiful. In one church the body of an old man lying in state: this is an honour paid indiscriminately throughout the country to the high and low, the rich and the poor. A curious custom generally prevails upon gala days: the higher classes, dressed in their "Sunday-clothes," drive in the evening to the most public part of the town, where they remain in their carriages, looking at each other for the space of an hour, but without interchanging the smallest conversation; after which they proceed to the opera, or some other public amusement. Their carriages, and the liveries

veries of their servants (five or six of whom are frequently attending one family through the streets), are uncommonly rich. Ostentation indeed is a prevailing passion among the Sicilians; and the person whose house indicates poverty and wretchedness, will still be seen abroad in a dashing coach, and attended by servants in brilliant liveries.

FASHIONS *for* JANUARY.

[From La Belle Assemblee.]

A Morning Dress.

OF French cambric, made with a train; plain waist, rather high behind, and sharply rounded at the chest; trimmed round the bottom with muslin, *a la cork-screw*; long and very full sleeves, edged at the hands with the same; a blue riband round the waist, terminating with bows, and ends on the right side. The cap, *a la cloister*, intirely concealing the hair, flowing loose, and shading the face on the left side, gathered above the right eye brow in a sort of irregular nosel, and simply confined round the head with a blue riband, which, finishing behind with a bow, forms the crown or caul of the cap. A neck-handkerchief, or shirt, sitting full in the front, and high towards the throat, with a deep falling collar, embroidered at the edge. Limerick gloves, and jean shoes.

Full, or Opera Dresses.

A Spanish vest and petticoat of Italian crape, worn over white satin, with a rich border of embossed velvet, terminating at the extreme edge with a narrow vandyke, or fringe of bugles, the petticoat gathered in a drapery towards the right knee, with a cord and tassels; the front of the vest made high, and formed in irregular horizontal gathers; confined with two narrow bands of bugles, terminating at the corners of the bosom, where the vest flows loose, and forms the square bust, which is finished with a pearl or diamond brooch in the centre. A short full twisted, or tucked sleeve, bordered at the bottom similar to the vest. The hair in a plain band round the right temple, relieved and terminated by loose curls, which commence on the crown of the head, and flow in long irregular ringlets from the left eye brow, so as to reach the shoulder. A plain lace veil, with slight border, fastened on the crown of the head, falling over the right side of the bosom, and reaching below the waist. A pearl or diamond ornament, bleaded with the hair, over the left eye; necklace, ear-rings, and bracelets, to correspond.

spond. White kid gloves, white satin shoes; fan of ebony, inlaid with ivory, and silver mount.

GENTLEMEN's FASHIONS *for* JANUARY.

[From Le Beau Monde.]

MORNING coats of dark brown mixtures, or dark green mixtures, made either according to the same stile as the evening coats, or single breasted, and rather short, are still fashionable. These we observe to have generally a moderate sized metal plated button; and though collars of the same cloth are much used, a black velvet collar is considered as carrying a greater degree of stile.

The few coloured coats for full dress that have been worn, during the last month, have undergone but trifling variation; when the mourning is over, dark greens will gain an ascendancy in the circle of fashion; and brown coats, with collars of the same, will still be much in favour.

The collar of coats, though made to rise well up in the neck, is, however, not so extremely high as it was formerly. It is now made just sufficient to admit a small portion of the neck cloth being seen above it; it then descends gradually on the sides of the neck, so as to fall open and rather low in front; the waistcoats are worn both double and single breasted, with collars of moderate heights to support themselves freely from the neck; and as they are buttoned only about half way up, and only two or three of the lower buttons of the coat fastened, they are made to shew the drapery of the shirt to much advantage, by the apparent fulness they display when tastefully made, and properly adapted to the body. The breeches come tolerably high up on the hip, and are two or three inches below the bend of the knee, where they sit perfectly close, taking, as they ascend, a gradual increase of size sufficient to make them completely full, but at the same time void of the extravagant folds which they exhibited some months past; the colours of the small-clothes were becoming somewhat more of the orange blossom, or fawn, in compliment to the ladies, who at present seem much attached to these colours in their pelisses; and we think they would have become pretty general, had they not been prevented by the introduction of black; they will be taken into favour during the present month, as they are much admired in the *haut ton*.

Proceedings of Press Gangs at Barbadoes.

[From Dr. Pinckard's "Notes on the West Indies."]

AFTER mentioning that the transports in Carlisle Bay, (Barbadoes,) had been visited by press-gangs, he proceeds, "In one instance an alarming scene took place, in consequence of the sailors of one of the ships resisting the arbitrary and unconstitutional method of obtaining their services. They opposed the boarding, and beat off the agent and two boats with the press-gang. This resistance was soon followed by the appearance of a party of soldiers, with fire-locks and fixed bayonets, who had been called upon to aid the press-gang, and to force the sailors to submission. Upon seeing the troops approach thus formidably armed, the sailors jumped into the ship's boat, and made the best of their way towards the shore. The press-gangs, and two or three boats filled with armed soldiers, pursued them. A general sensation of alarm overspread the harbour, and it was feared that much blood would be shed. Every vessel was thronged with spectators; an universal impulse was excited, and feelings of anxiety seemed to possess every mind. The sailors manœuvred best in the race. They gained headway at every pull of their oars, and made the shore at a point beyond the reach of the soldiers and their muskets. Several shots were fired at them in vain, and upon their landing, a loud and general shout instantly spread around, which seemed to be involuntary, but was strongly expressive of the wish of the multitude that the sailors might escape. Their only hope was in flight; and some of them had the good fortune to elude the activity and vigilance of their pursuers: but the soldiers proved to be more successful in the chace on shore, than they had been in the boats, for a party of the sailors was brought back a short time after, under a strong guard, and compelled to submit to this law of force.

It has been our fortune on board the Lord Sheffield to be disturbed by two different parties of the press-gang in the course of the same night; one of which came alongside at midnight, the other at two o'clock in the morning. From stealing thus unexpectedly, and in the dark, you will suppose that much hurry and confusion was created. Being wakened by the noise, and running of people over my head, I put on my *robe de chambre*, and went up to learn the cause; when finding it to be a press-gang, I felt a strong disposition to observe their conduct and manner of proceeding, and therefore remained upon deck during the whole time they continued on board.

A lieutenant of the navy was stalking up and down with a huge drawn sabre in his hand, calling out with boatswain's lungs

lungs for the steward to bring up a light. His men were running about every part of the ship, armed with cutlasses, pistols, hangers, and various other weapons and instruments of death. Such of the sailors of the ship whom they found upon deck, were instantly tumbled into a boat at the side, filled with armed men. The others secreted themselves in holes and corners.

Perhaps you will say it was a little severe to demand a light at all from the ship, in order to rob her of her own men; but the whole proceeding was alike arbitrary and despotic, and this only consistent with the other parts of it. They had come in darkness, and with muffled oars, that they might take the vessel by surprise, and were unable to prosecute their search into the remote and concealed parts of the ship without the aid of light. The cabins, the cable-tier, the pantries, the lockers, the very pig-sty, every hole and corner they could think of were hunted out, and they seemed resolved that not a spot should be omitted. Yet, notwithstanding all their vigilance, several of the sailors contrived to elude the search.

Method of Cleaning Silk, Woollen, and Cotton.

THE following is given as a good method of cleaning silk, woollen, and cotton goods, without damage to the texture or colour: grate raw potatoes to a fine pulp in clean water, and pass the liquid matter through a coarse sieve into another vessel of water; let the mixture stand still 'till the fine white particles of the potatoes are precipitated, then pour the mucilaginous liquor from the fecula, and preserve the liquor for use. The article to be cleaned should then be laid upon a linen cloth on a table; and having provided a clean sponge, dip the sponge in the potatoe liquor, and apply it to the article to be cleaned 'till the dirt is perfectly separated; then wash it in clean water several times. Two middle-sized potatoes will be sufficient for a pint of water. The white fecula will answer the purpose of tapioca, and make an useful nourishing food with soup or milk, or serve to make starch and hair-powder. The coarse pulp, which does not pass the sieve, is of great use in cleaning worsted curtains, tapestry, carpets, or other coarse goods. The mucilaginous liquor will clean all sorts of silk, cotton, or woollen goods, without hurting or spoiling the colour; it is also used in cleaning oil-paintings, or furniture that is soiled. Dirted painted wainscoats may be cleansed by wetting a sponge in the liquor, then dipping it in a little fine clean sand, and afterwards rubbing the wainscoat with it.

Letter of General Washington to Sir John Sinclair, containing a Description of the United States.

SIR,

THE near view which you have of the revolution in France, and of the political state of things in Europe, especially those of Great Britain, has enabled you to form a judgment with so much more accuracy than I could do of the probable result of the perturbated state of the countries which compose that quarter of the globe, and of the principal actors in that theatre, that it would be presumptuous in me, at the distance of 3000 miles, to give an opinion relatively to either men or measures; and therefore I will proceed to the information required in your private letter of the 11th of September, which I will give from the best knowledge I possess, and with the candour you have a right to expect from me.

The United States, as you well know, are very extensive, more than 1500 miles between the north-eastern and south-western extremities; all parts of which, from the Seaboard to the Apalachlan mountains (which divide the eastern from the western waters,) are entirely settled, though not as compactly as they are susceptible of; and settlements are progressing rapidly beyond them.

Within so great a space you are not to be told that there are a great variety of climates; and you will readily suppose, too, that there are all sorts of land, differently improved, and of various prices, according to the quality of the soil; its contiguity to, or remoteness from navigation; the nature of the improvements, and other local circumstances. These, however, are only sufficient for the formation of a general opinion; for there are material deviations, as I shall mention hereafter.

In the New England states, and to Pennsylvania inclusively, landed property is more divided than it is in the states south of them.

The farms are smaller; the buildings and other improvements generally better: and, of consequence, the population is greater: but then, the climate, especially to the eastward of Hudson's river, is cold; the winters long, consuming a great part of the summer's labour in support of their stocks during the winter. Nevertheless, it is a country abounding in grass, and furnishes much fine beef, besides exporting many horses to the West Indies.

A mildew or blight, (I am speaking now of the New England states particularly) prevents them from raising wheat adequate to their own consumption, and of other grains they export little or none; fish being their staple. They live well, notwithstanding, and are a happy people. Their numbers are not

augmented by foreign emigrants; yet, from their circumscribed limits, compact situation, and natural population, they are filling the western parts of the state of New York, and the country on the Ohio, with their own surplusage.

New Jersey is a small state, and all parts of it, except the south-western, are pleasant, healthy, and productive of all kinds of grain, &c. Being surrounded on two sides by New York, and on the other two by Delaware river and the Atlantic, it has no land of its own to supply the surplus of its population; of course, their emigrations are principally towards the Ohio.

Pennsylvania is a large state; and, from the policy of its founder, and of the government since, and especially from the celebrity of Philadelphia, has become the general receptacle for foreigners from all countries, and of all descriptions, many of whom soon take an active part in the politics of the state; and coming over full of prejudices against their own governments, some against all governments, you will be enabled, without any comment of mine, to draw your own inference of their conduct.

Delaware is a very small state, the greater part of which lies low, and is supposed to be unhealthy. The eastern shore of Maryland is similar thereto. The lands in both, however, are good.

But the western parts of the last-mentioned state, and of Virginia, quite to the line of North Carolina, above tide water (and more especially above the blue mountains,) are similar to those of Pennsylvania, between the Susquehanna and Potomac rivers, in soil, climate, and productions; and in my opinion will be considered, if it is not considered so already, as the garden of America; forasmuch as it lies between the two extremes of heat and cold, partaking in a degree of the advantages of both, without feeling much the inconveniences of either; and, with truth it may be said, is among the most fertile land in America, east of the Apalacian mountains.

The uplands of North and South Carolina and Georgia are not dissimilar in soil; but, as they approach the lower latitudes, are less congenial to wheat, and are supposed to be proportionably more unhealthy. Towards the seaboard of all the southern states, (and further south the more so) the country is low, sandy, and unhealthy; for which reason I shall say little concerning them; for, as I should not chuse to be an inhabitant of them myself, I ought not to say any thing that would induce others to be so.

This general description is furnished, that you may be enabled to form an idea of the part of the United States which would be most congenial to your inclination. To pronounce, with any degree of precision, what lands could be obtained for

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in the parts I have enumerated, is next to impossible, for the reasons I have before assigned; but upon pretty good data it may be said, that those in Pennsylvania are higher than those in Maryland (and, I believe, in any other state), declining in price as you go southerly, until the rice swamps of South Carolina and Georgia are met with; and these are as much above the medium in price, as they are below it in health. I understand, however, that from 30 to 40 dollars per acre (I fix on dollars because they apply equally to all the states, and because their relative value to sterling is well understood,) may be denominated the medium price in the vicinity of the Susquehanna, in the state of Pennsylvania; from 20 to 30 on the Potomac*; and less, as I have noticed before, as you proceed southerly. But, what may appear singular, and was alluded to in the former part of this letter, the lands in the parts of which I am now speaking, on and contiguous to tide-water (with local exceptions), are in lower estimation than those which are above and more remote from navigation. The causes, however, are apparent: 1, the land is better; 2, higher, and more healthy; 3, they are chiefly, if not altogether, in the occupation of farmers; and 4, from a combination of all these, purchasers are attracted, and of consequence the prices rise in proportion to the demand. The rise in the value of landed property in this country has been progressive ever since my attention has been turned to the subject, now more than 40 years; but for the last three or four of that period, it has increased beyond all calculation; owing, in part, to the attachment to, and the confidence which the people are beginning to place in their form of government, and to the prosperity of the country from a variety of concurring causes, none more than to the late high prices of its produce.

From what I have said, you will have perceived that the present prices of land in Pennsylvania are higher than they are in Maryland and Virginia, although they are not of superior quality. Two reasons have already been assigned for this: first, that in the settled part of it the land is divided into smaller farms, and more improved; and secondly, being in a greater degree than any other the receptacle of emigrants, these receive their first impressions in Philadelphia, and rarely look beyond the limits of the state. But besides these, two other causes, not a little operative, may be added; namely, that until congress passed general laws relative to naturalization and citizenship, foreigners found it easier to obtain the privileges annexed to them in this state than elsewhere; and because

* Both in what is called the Valley; that is, lying between the Blue Mountain and North Mountain, which are the richest lands we have.

there are laws here for the gradual abolition of slavery, which neither of the two states above-mentioned have at present, but which nothing is more certain than that they must have, and at a period not remote.

Notwithstanding these obstacles, and although I may incur the charge of partiality in hazarding such an opinion at this time, I do not hesitate to pronounce that the lands of the waters of Potomac will in a few years be in greater demand, and in higher estimation, than in any other part of the United States. But as I ought not to advance this doctrine without assigning reasons for it, I will request you to examine a general map of the United States, and the following facts will strike you at the first view: that they lie in the most temperate latitude of the United States; that the main river runs in a direct course to the expanded part of the western country, and approximates nearer to the principal branches of the Ohio than any other eastern water; and of course must become a great, if not (under all circumstances) the best highway into that region: that the upper sea-port of the Potomac is considerably nearer to a large portion of the state of Pennsylvania, than that portion is to Philadelphia; besides accommodating the settlers thereof with inland navigation for more than 200 miles: that the amazing extent of tide navigation afforded by the bay and rivers of Chesapeak, has scarcely a parallel. When to these are added, that a site at the junction of the inland and tide navigation of that river is chosen for the permanent seat of the general government, and is in rapid preparation for its reception; that the inland navigation of the river is nearly completed to the extent above-mentioned; and that its lateral branches are capable of great improvement, at a small expence, through the most fertile parts of Virginia in a southerly direction, and crossing Maryland and extending into Pennsylvania in a northerly one, through which (independent of what may come from the western country) an immensity of produce will be water-borne, thereby making the federal city the great emporium of the United States—I say, when these things are taken into consideration, I am under no apprehension of having the opinion I have given relative to the value of land on Potomac controverted by impartial men.

There are farms always, and every where, for sale: if, therefore, events should induce you to cast an eye towards America, there need be no apprehension of your being accommodated to your liking; and if I could be made useful to you therein, you might command my services with the greatest freedom.

Within full view of Mount Vernon, separated therefrom by water only, is one of the most beautiful seats on the river for sale; but of greater magnitude than you seem to have contemplated.

plated. It is called Belvoir, and did belong to George William Fairfax, esq. who, were he living, would now be baron of Cameron, as his younger brother in this country (he, George William, dying without issue) at present is, though he does not take upon himself the title. This seat was the residence of the above-named gentleman before he went to England, and was accommodated with very good buildings, which were burnt after he left them.

There are near 2000 acres of land belonging to the tract, surrounded in a manner by water. The mansion-house stood on high and commanding ground. The soil is not of the first quality; but a considerable part of it lying level, may, with proper management, be profitably cultivated. There are some small tenements on the estate, but the greater part thereof is in wood. At present it belongs to Thomas Fairfax, son of Bryan Fairfax, the gentleman who will not, as I said before, take upon himself the title of baron of Cameron. A year or two ago, the price he fixed on the land was, as I have been informed, 33½ dollars per acre; whether not getting that sum, or whether he is no longer disposed to sell it, I am unable with precision to say; for I have heard nothing concerning his intentions lately.

With respect to the tenements I have offered to let, appertaining to my Mount Vernon estate, I can give no better description of them, and of their appurtenances, than what is contained in the printed advertisement herewith inclosed: but, that you may have a more distinct view of the farms, and their relative situation to the mansion-house, a sketch from actual survey is also inclosed; annexed to which I have given you, from memory, the relative situation and form of the seat at Belvoir.

The terms on which I have authorised the superintendant of my concerns at Mount Vernon to lease the farms there, are also inclosed; which, with the other papers, and the general information herein detailed, will throw all the light I am enabled to give you upon the subject of your enquiry.

To have such a tenant as Sir John Sinclair, however desirable it might be, is an honour I dare not hope for; and to alienate any part of the fee-simple estate of Mount Vernon is a measure I am not inclined to, as all the farms are connected, and form parts of a whole.

With very great esteem and respect,
I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient and obliged humble servant,
G. WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, December 11, 1796.

P. S.

P. S. As I shall have an opportunity, in the course of the present session of congress, to converse with the members thereof from different states, and from different parts of each state, I will write you a supplementary account, if essential information should be obtained in addition to, or corrective of, what is given to you in the foregoing sheets.

ANECDOTE *of* GENERAL DUMOURIEZ.

[From the Life of that General, written by himself.]

DUMOURIEZ, who was on duty with the count de Thiars, then marshal de camp, was dispatched, on the evening before the battle of Clostercamp, to the right of the army. Having fallen in with some of Fischer's horse grenadiers, and some of Beaufremont's dragoons, he crossed the canal with them, on purpose to advance towards the right, keeping always within sight of his own troops; but was immediately assailed by a score of the enemy's hussars.

He instantly defended himself, and at the same time called on some of the French troopers, who had just fled, to come to his assistance. He himself disabled two of the hussars from continuing the combat, but his own horse fell down dead under him; and to increase his misfortune, his left stirrup, which happened to be formed of untempered iron, was bent close to his foot by the weight of his charger. He disengaged his leg, however, but still found that his foot was held fast; notwithstanding this, he sustained, even in that position, a combat of five minutes against his furious antagonists, &c.

At the very moment he was about to be murdered, a tutelary angel arrived to his succour: this proved to be the baron de Behr, aide-de-camp to the hereditary prince [afterwards duke of Brunswick, and whose lamented decease took place very lately]. The prince himself happened to be reconnoitring, and these hussars, indeed, formed his escort.

The baron was obliged to draw his sabre, to prevent them from butchering Dumouriez; he at length succeeded in his efforts, and they disengaged his foot, and dragged him before the hereditary prince, who paid him many compliments. He was then carried to the station where the enemy's first line had encamped in the open air during the preceding night; it consisted of an English brigade commanded by Lord Waldegrave. There his wounds were dressed for the first time; he had six deep ones, and thirteen severe contusions. What affected him most was, the circumstance of being unable to make use of either of his arms. He was however placed on horseback, and arrived at the camp of Burich, where he was greatly caressed

by the enemy's generals and soldiers, more especially the British.

On the next day the hereditary prince chose to retire, after experiencing but indifferent success, which he however had no reason to expect: for never did any general better deserve to gain a battle than he did that of Clostercamp.

Dumouriez received every possible mark of attention and benevolence from him; but although he entreated his highness, as a favour, to send him back to the French camp, the prince persisted in keeping him along with the army until it had crossed the Rhine, and begun to retire, lest he should relate what he had seen.

After his retreat had been achieved, he sent him to Wesel, escorted by the same baron de Behr who had saved his life, and who was a very amiable young man; he at the same time transmitted an exceedingly kind letter to the marquis de Castries, full of the praises of his young prisoner.

The prince did not then foresee that this letter, which was carefully transmitted to the marshal de Belle-Isle, would make the fortune of this officer; and that thirty-two years after, this self-same prisoner would command an army against him in Champagne, and save France by obliging him to retire! However, notwithstanding all this, had he even anticipated those events, he would have acted exactly in the same manner. Generosity is one of the essential characteristics appertaining to great warriors; and it was eminently conspicuous in this prince, who was as much beloved in the French army as in that of which he was the Achilles.

DESCRIPTION *of* STRALSUND.

DR. BUSCHING gives the following description of Stralsund. This place, the capital of Swedish Pomerania, lies on a strait of the sea called the Gellen, between the continent of Pomerania and the island of Rugen. It is very strong, being so surrounded by the sea, that it is accessible only over bridges, and has besides very good fortifications. It is the residence likewise of the king's governor-general, of regency, the war office, and the place where the states of Swedish Pomerania hold their meetings. This city was founded in 1209 by Jaromar I. prince of Rugen, for the better security of the continental part of his principality, which he had recovered from the Pomeranians, but was soon after surprized, and destroyed by Bogislaf and Casimir II. dukes of Pomerania.

It was held in little account after the erection of the new town of Schadegaide in its neighbourhood: but Prince Witzelaf I. demolished the latter, that Stralsund might retrieve its

its former condition. In the year 1238 the Lubeckers landing in the night took this town by surprise, and after pillaging every part of it, carried off the most wealthy of the inhabitants. Prince Witzelaf in 1240, put it again in a thriving way, by the grant of several privileges, which were augmented by Prince Witzelaf III. but in 1277 it was a second time plundered and laid in ashes by the Lubeckers. Prince Witzelaf, however, was not discouraged from endeavouring to support it, by bestowing on it great donations and immunities. It was formerly one of the principal Hanse Towns. In 1628 it held out a siege against the Imperialists, under General Wallanstein, but in 1678 was so furiously bombarded by Frederick William, elector of Brandenburg, that it surrendered on the third day of the siege, after the destruction of upwards of 1800 houses; and in 1715, it was taken by a combined army of Russians, Danes, Saxons, and Brandenburghers. Since it came into the possession of Sweden, it has been fortified in such a manner as to render it impregnable.

CZERTNITZ LAKE.

KIRKNITZ, or Czertnitz, in Germany, is remarkable for its famous lake, called Czernitz Lake, or sea, which is ten miles long and eight broad, encompassed with mountains and forests at some distance, and on the east-side with forests of pear trees. The water sinks under ground every year in June, through many large holes in the bottom, leaving it quite dry 'till September, when it returns spouting out of those holes with such violence, that it soon rises to the height of a pike, and covers all the ground again, making that space a sea which was before fields of corn, pasture, and hunting; for, after the retreat of the water, the people sow corn here, which ripens for the sickle before September; and the grass grows here so quick, that it affords pasture for the cattle and deer that are turned into it from the neighbouring hills and forests, which are taken off before the springs rise again. The fish that abounds here are carp, eels, tench, &c. which none must catch without licence from the prince of Eckenburgh (who is lord of the manor), 'till the water retires, and then the peasants catch great numbers by laying their nets over the holes. The adjacent inhabitants say the lakes constantly observe this course, but can give no reason for this strange phenomenon.

VIRGINIA COAL.

THE strata of coal in Virginia, lie near the surface of the earth, and are very thick. One stratum was lately discovered of the astonishing thickness of 42 feet, and so near the surface, that the earth is merely taken off, and the coal dug out without undermining.

AUSTRIAN LITERATURE.

THE irruption of the French into Germany has caused a complete stagnation in all the branches of literature through the Austrian states. Travelling having become every year more expensive, the number of booksellers has accordingly decreased, and to these causes may be attributed the reason of not a single Austrian bookseller being present at the last Easter fair of Leipsic. Every one feels the want of a well-conducted journal, in order to form a rallying point for the men of talents of Austria, but it is probable that no production of that description would find sufficient encouragement in the Austrian states. The belief that the licenser suppresses every publication which contains any observations encouraging freedom, or in favour of civil or religious liberty, has excited a great prejudice against every book that bears the imprint of Vienna. The man of genius is therefore ranked in this country among the common herd of scribblers, and his works are judged of by the same comparison. The publication entitled "Annals of Austrian Literature," is now in a state of suspension, owing to the general want of energy, not only of the literati, but also of the people in general; but the editors hope to acquire new strength, and intend to publish two numbers every month 'till December, 1806, in order that their series may be complete. Dr. Lubeck's "Hungarian Miscellany," is also in a similar state.

Among the speculations of the literary men of Germany, may be reckoned that of N. Low, a painter and engraver of some merit, who proposes to publish every three months, six portraits of living authors, who reside at Berlin, with a biographical sketch, written by themselves. He has given, as a specimen, a striking likeness of J. Muller, whose history of Switzerland is well known, and who has communicated memoirs of himself, written with great force and dignity, and with that modesty so becoming in every person who speaks of himself. This memoir will be read with interest, as it displays his gradual progress towards that point of perfection which will cause the works of M. Muller to survive as long as the language in which he wrote.

Answer, by H. Glasson, of Praze, to W. Mann's Rebus, inserted October 27.

HAYLEY it is, if right I guess,
Which your few lines will soon express.

☞ Similar answers have been received from W. D. of Bristol; P. Gove, of Exeter; and A. Kyne, of London.

Answer, by B. Belcher, of Stonehouse, to T. Rutger's Charade, inserted Nov. 3.

THE man I think is truly blest,
That tender FEELING doth possess.

† We have received the like answers from J. Woodman, of North Curry; W. D. Champion, of Bridgewater; W. D. of Bristol; J. Ryan, of East Stonehouse; G. P. O. of Beer; H. Stoneman, of Exeter; A. Kyne, of London; Ann Dyer, of Manadon-house; J. A. Dyer, of Taunton; John Lewis, of Poole; and H. Glasson, of Praze.

Answer, by R. Loosemore, of Tiverton, to J. Lewis's Charade, inserted Nov. 3.

ON Albion's plains, in fertile soil,
You may behold the plant TREFOIL.

‡§‡ We have received the like answer from John Woodman, of North Curry; W. D. Champion, of Bridgewater; Rusticus, of Awliscombe; J. S. W. Piper, and H. Stoneman, of Exeter; W. D. of Bristol; J. A. Dyer, of Taunton; J. Ryan, of East Stonehouse; T. Coumbe, of St. German's; G. A. F. Arden; J. Whitnell, of Ashcott; A. Kyne, of London; and Ann Dyer, of Manadon-house.

An ANAGRAM, *by J. Whittle, of Upway.*

TO cure, ye gents. aright transpose,
My sister's name you will disclose.

A REBUS, *by J. Woodman, of North Curry.*

WHAT should employ our thoughts when most profound;
He who first gave his sons a mortal wound;
That man who did his brother ridicule;
And what is seen in almost every school;
He who resolves fair Sphinx's riddles right;
Lastly a town in Dorset bring to sight:
The initials join aright and true,
They tell us what we ought to do.

An ANAGRAM, *by T. Rutger, of Clowance.*

BY transposition, gents. I ask,
You to perform the following task:
From what is to be base define,
Too oft what in man's breast doth reign.
Next what the ladies often wear
When walking forth to take the air;
A scripture name I now propound,
Which doubtless may with ease be found;
And last, to what all mankind crave
Them from the jaws of death to save.

POETRY.

PATRIOTIC INCITEMENT *to* UNANIMITY.

[From Poems by Dr. Halloran.]

WHILE Austria's vanquish'd legions yield,
On Austerlitz' disastrous field;
While warlike Prussia fights in vain,
And Europe mourns her Brunswick slain;
While ancient thrones to earth are hurl'd,
Beneath the despot of the world;
Freedom survives in Britain's isles,
And mocks the tyrant's force and wiles.

Britons! behold yon adverse shore,
Whence collected myriads low'r;
And in proud hope their prey demand,
"Your wives, your daughters, wealth, and land!"
See, for your breasts, the murd'rous hordes,
Blunted with slaughter, whet their swords!
Rise, rise, my sons! your country save,
Or in her ruins find a grave!

Faction avaunt! Let one firm soul
Unite and animate the whole!
Extinct, let every private feud,
Be sacrific'd to public good!
Can cares so mean your notice win,
As, "Who are out?" or "Who are in?
A weightier cause attention craves—
"Will you be freemen, or be slaves?

I see from every kindling eye,
The glance of scorn indignant fly;
Rouse then! dispel the tyrant's dream!
"Divide and conquer" is his scheme!
But if united, heart and hand, &c.
Proud France shall ne'er pollute your land;
But find your conqu'ring flag unfurl'd,
The grand palladium of the world!

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

EARLY LOVE.

IN youth's fond spring, where'er we move,
The world looks bright and fair;
The bosom's kind, and wand'ring love
Finds an asylum there.

Whilst round a flow'ry Eden bloom'd,
And love its joys imparts,
Congenial purity assumes
The empire of our hearts.

But growing life oft checks the flame,
Or less propitious proves;

Wild

Wild passion oft assumes the name,
And interest rules the loves.

Then quickly chang'd is ev'ry scene,
So fair and bright before;
The loves resign a charge so mean,
And virtue rules no more.

Let youth, then, guard that sacred fire,
Which mildly warms the breast,
Gives fuel to each pure desire,
To life its sweetest zest.

Falmouth, December 24, 1806. STREPHON.

EVERY MAN A THIEF BY NATURE.

TO A LADY.

LISTEN to me, my dearest creature,
Every man's a thief by nature;
See the little girls and boys,
How they steal each others toys;
Stealing is the first of arts,
None are thieves but men of parts.
Poets steal from one another,
Nay, the daughter robs her mother;
Time will steal our very youth,
Liars sometimes steal the truth;
Nay, your sex would pilfer you
Of those eyes of heavenly blue,
Of that soft envermeil'd lip,
And that ear with rosy tip,
And your silky, auburn hair,
That wantons in the enamour'd air.
Since we are such thieves by nature,
Why accuse me, dearest creature
Of a crime, a crime so glorious,
Is your swain at last victorious?
Have I really stole your heart,
Spite of all your pride and art?
If you pardon the transgression,
You shan't lose by the confession,
You shall find your heart at rest,
In your lover's faithful breast;
How I'll guard the precious treasure,
Love's the source of every pleasure;
You can prove it, if you doubt it,
Life, indeed, is nought without it.

APOSTROPHE *to* BEAUTY.

By the late Mr. TASKER.

O Beauty! herald of the queen of love,
(Whose sweets ambrosial mortals prove)
Thron'd on the youth's, or virgin's eye,
'Tis you announce the approaching extacy;
Your influence ruleth unconfin'd,
While your capricious mind
Is now to me, now to another, kind;
O, goddess of the human heart!
To merit's claim thy power impart,
And grant, throughout thy wide domain,
That virtuous youths who love, may never love in vain.